



VOLUME I  
ISSUE 6  
JUNE 26, 2020

## Thayer Students Only: College Information Sessions

This will likely be our final week of hosting college information sessions until later in the summer. Check back later, especially at the start of the school year, when we expect to ramp back up to offer sessions with admissions representatives from a wide array of colleges.

### MONDAY, JUNE 29

11:00 a.m.  
Trinity College



Representative with Kyle Smith  
Zoom link still pending, please  
email [Ms. Brennan Hall](mailto:Ms. Brennan Hall)

### TUESDAY, JUNE 30

12:00 p.m.  
Middlebury College



Middlebury

Representative Sam Prouty  
and a current student  
Zoom meeting [link](#)

3:30 p.m.  
Fordham University



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY  
THE JESUIT UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Representative Sarah Dougan  
Zoom meeting [link](#)



## Carnegie Mellon Workshops

Carnegie Mellon's admission counselors are sharing their expertise in a virtual Admission Insight series to give a behind-the-scenes look at general admission topics. Their first offering is a free workshop for high school students who want guidance on writing their Personal Statement.

### Admission Insights: Writing a College Essay: How to Stand Out in 650 Words or Less

Wednesday, July 1 at 4:00 p.m.  
space is limited, please register promptly  
[register here](#)

If you are interested in Carnegie Mellon University as a school, they are offering Tartan Talks, as a way to learn more about the student experience on their campus. Student ambassadors will be talking about their involvement within academics, activities, research, the city of Pittsburgh and more.

### Tartan Talk: Student Life

Thursday, July 23 at 4:00 p.m. | [register here](#)

## ACT News

The ACT has added three new test dates to its fall testing schedule to help meet the demand for testing caused by COVID-19 cancellations and social distancing requirements that have limited test centers' capacities. A total of eight test dates will now be offered to students this fall. The full testing schedule includes the following dates:

- **Saturday, September 12** (existing)
- **Sunday, September 13** (non-Saturday, existing)
- **Saturday, September 19** (new)
- **Saturday, October 10** (new)
- **Saturday, October 17** (new)
- **Saturday, October 24** (existing)
- **Sunday, October 25** (non-Saturday, existing)
- **Saturday, December 12** (existing)

In addition to the new test dates, all students will be able to register for existing non-Saturday test dates in September and October, when registration opens at the end of July. These tests will all be administered with recommended social distancing practices and health safety guidelines.

Of other note, beginning in September the ACT is also planning to deliver online testing, so stay tuned for announcements regarding that opportunity. The ACT has also postponed its planned rollout of section retesting until 2021.



## HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS:

## Attending International Colleges and Universities

Do you enjoy other cultures? Are you energized when you find yourself outside of your comfort zone working your way through a frenzy of new experiences? Do you adore taking risks? Answering “yes” to these questions could mean you’re a good fit for college in another country. And not just a semester abroad, but the entirety of your undergraduate years. It might be hard to envision right now due to COVID-19, but when the uncertainty and discomfort are behind us, adventures in faraway lands will be ready for you. Whether you are thinking about next door at a Canadian school or you have your sights set on places halfway across the globe, students who spend their college years abroad tend to be independent spirits who relish new adventures.

As you might guess, there are some distinct differences between U.S. higher education and its application process and that of international schools:

**The academic experience:** U.S. colleges typically expect students to take four years to graduate unless there are AP credits resulting in advanced standing. Many colleges and universities abroad only require three years to earn a diploma because the coursework focuses almost exclusively on the academic major and not general liberal arts courses or electives. Colleges abroad work best for students who have a specific major in mind.

**Admissions Process:** Unlike at U.S. colleges, most colleges abroad aren’t concerned with recommendations or extracurriculars because GPA and test scores (SAT’s, SAT Subject Tests, AP Exams, etc.) are the focal point of application review. Some international colleges even have entrance exams of their own. The more selective universities may ask for essays, but the focus is almost always going to be on the student’s academic inclination, motivation, and achievement. Another interesting note: it is relatively common for colleges and universities overseas to admit a student conditionally, requiring that the student take a Subject Test or AP Exam in the spring of their senior year with the goal of achieving a minimum score to gain official acceptance.

**Finances:** Colleges abroad might be more economical than U.S. colleges. According to the College Board, the average tuition rates in the U.S. for 2016-17 were \$9,650 for in-state tuition at a public university, \$24,930 for out-of-state tuition at a public

university and \$33,480 for a private university. In continental Europe, some colleges charge less than \$7,000 a year for a bachelor’s program in English. Not only are annual tuition costs less, but if you can also graduate in three years instead of four, the savings can be significant, even with travel costs taken into consideration.

**Career implications:** In this competitive job market, global awareness and experience can give you an edge during hiring, depending on the industry. While the norm is to study abroad for a semester to gain global experience, a job applicant with multiple years in another country, exposure to many different cultures, and possibly some foreign language skills, might set themselves apart.

Regardless of where you go to college, the experience can be life-changing. Perhaps a study abroad program or two at a U.S. college is enough to fulfill your sense of adventure. But if not, going to college abroad could be the right fit for you.

Imperial College London is offering a general session on understanding the process of applying to schools in the UK.



**Imperial College  
London**

**Applying to the UK: An online information session  
for prospective undergraduates from the Americas**  
Wednesday, July 8, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

If you are unable to attend live, by registering you will receive a recording to watch in your own time. [register here](#)

### THE SMARTIES CORNER

International Colleges & Universities where recent Thayer graduates have matriculated.

**CENTRAL SAINT MARTINS COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN**  
London, England

**KING’S COLLEGE LONDON**  
London, England

**UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
Vancouver, Canada

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN**  
Belfield, Ireland

**UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS**  
St Andrews, Scotland



#### THAYER ACADEMY PULSIFER COLLEGE COUNSELING CENTER

Mr. Thad Robey, Director of College Counseling, [trobey@thayer.org](mailto:trobey@thayer.org)

Ms. Nellie Brennan Hall, Associate Director of College Counseling, [nbrennanhall@thayer.org](mailto:nbrennanhall@thayer.org)

Mrs. Christine Woods, Associate Director of College Counseling, [cwoods@thayer.org](mailto:cwoods@thayer.org)

Ms. Selene Carlo-Eymer, Upper School Registrar + Coordinator to College Counseling, [seymer@thayer.org](mailto:seymer@thayer.org)